

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IOE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAJ-01 SAM-01

OMB-01 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 DLOS-06 SAL-01 EA-07 /090 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8553

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3147

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS, TU, GR

SUBJ: GREEK CONCERN OVER SISMIC EXPLORATION WEST OF LESBOS
ISLAND

REF: ATHENS 8068

1. SUMMARY. GREEK PERMREP PAPOULIAS ON INSTRUCTIONS CALLED
ON US DEPUTY PERMREP BENNETT ON AUGUST 9 TO EXPRESS OFFICIAL
CONCERN OVER LATEST SEISMIC EXPLORATORY ACTIVITIES OF
TURKISH SHIP SISMIC I. END SUMMARY.

2. GREEK PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE PAPOULIAS CALLED ON
AMBASSADOR BENNETT UNDER INSTRUCTIONS AT 9:00 AM ON AUGUST
9. PAPOULIAS INDICATED SUNDAY EVENING, AUGUST 8, DURING
TELEPHONE CALL WITH BENNETT THAT THERE WAS
CONSIDERABLE URGENCY IN THE APPOINTMENT. PAPOULIAS EXPLAINED
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THAT HE WOULD CALL ON SECURITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT ABE (JAPAN)

AT 9:30 AM AUGUST 9 BUT PREFERRED TO CALL ON US BEFOREHAND.

3. PAPOULIAS DESCRIBED SISMII TESTING ON AUGUST 6 AND 7 WITH SAME COORDINATES AS PROVIDED IN ATHENS 8068. HE PRODUCED A SERIES OF MAPS WHICH PRESENTED IN OUTLINE THE TURKISH CLAIMS TO CONTINENTAL SHELF IN THE AEGEAN SEA SINCE 1974. ONE SUCH MAP WAS MARKED TO SHOW AREA WEST OF LESBOS ISLAND WHERE SISMII CONDUCTED EXPLORATION OVER THE WEEK-END. PAPOULIAS NOTED THAT SUCH ACTIVITY BY SISMII COULD LEAD TO SITUATION WHERE ARTICLE 34 OF THE UN CHARTER WOULD NEED TO BE APPLIED. (ARTICLE 34 STATES THAT THE SC MAY INVESTIGATE ANY DISPUTE TO DETERMINE IF IT IS LIKELY TO ENDANGER PEACE AND SECURITY.) IN RESPONSE TO BENNETT'S QUERY, PAPOULIAS REMARKED THAT GREECE WAS NOT REPEAT NOT REQUESTING A SC MEETING AT THIS TIME.

4. BENNETT NOTED THAT THE US MISSION HAD RECEIVED A REPORT OF THE GREEK AMBASSADOR'S DEMARCHE IN ANKARA. BENNETT REFERRED TO US VIEWPOINT THAT SUCH DISPUTES SHOULD BE SETTLED BY PEACEFUL MEANS WITH BOTH SIDES REFRAINING FROM TAKING PROVOCATIVE ACTIONS. PAPOULIAS ACKNOWLEDGED THIS AND ADDED THAT HIS INSTRUCTIONS WERE TO EXPRESS CONCERN AND TO INDICATE THAT THE SITUATION COULD LEAD TO CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE ARTICLE 34 OF UN CHARTER WOULD BE APPLICABLE. PAPOULIAS SAID HE WOULD BE GOING BEYOND HIS BRIEF TO SAY MORE BUT ON A PERSONAL BASIS HE HOPED THE US AS A CLOSE ALLY WOULD DO WHATEVER POSSIBLE.

5. BENNETT SAID US RECOGNIZED THE SERIOUS POTENTIAL OF THE SITUATION AND THAT WE WOULD REPORT PAPOULIAS' VISIT TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE AT ONCE. BENNETT CONCLUDED BY POINTOUT IMPORTANCE OF STAYING IN CLOSE CONTACT ON THIS. PAPOULIAS AGREED.
BENNETT

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